

Patterns of Care Studies

Background

The Patterns of Care (POC) initiative has three inter-related goals, which are to:

- Evaluate the dissemination of state-of-the-art cancer therapy and diagnostics into community oncology practice,
- Identify patient-, provider-, and system-level factors that are associated with receipt and utilization of state-of-the-art cancer therapy and diagnostics in community oncology practice; and
- Disseminate findings through scientific publications and presentations.

POC studies began in 1987 with [SEER](#) cases serving as controls for a study that examined the provision of state-of-the-art therapy in Community Clinical Oncology Program hospitals. POC data have enabled investigators to examine disparities in receipt of cancer therapies, diagnostic tests, and biomarkers by age, race/ethnicity, and residential urbanicity/rurality. They also have been used to show trends in cancer therapy and survival over time for sites with multi-year data.

POC data are collected under a Congressional Mandate to NCI (Public Law 100-607, Sec. 413 (a)(2)(C) adopted November 4, 1988), and the project is coordinated jointly by the [Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences](#) and the [Division of Cancer Treatment and Diagnosis](#).

Cancers Covered by POC

POC studies have been conducted for a sample of patients with the following cancers:

Year of Diagnosis	Cancer site *
1987-1991, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015	Early stage Breast Cancer
1987-1991, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015	B2 & C Colorectal Cancer
1991, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015	In Situ Breast (91 is part of DCIS)
1991, 1996, 2002, 2011	Ovarian
1995, 1996, 2001	Melanoma
1995, 2003, 2009	Bladder
1996, 2005, 2010, 2015	Non small cell lung
1996	Childhood ALL, AML, Hodgkin's, osteo-, Ewing's sarcoma
1997	DCIS Breast ; Childhood Brain Stem
1997, 2000, 2001	Cervix
1997, 2004, 2009, 2016	Head and Neck
1998, 2016	Corpus uteri
1998, 2009, 2016	Pancreas
1998, 2008, 2014	CLL
1998, 2002, 2008	Prostate

Year of Diagnosis	Cancer site *
1999	Testicular, Vulva
1999, 2003, 2007, 2014	Multiple Myeloma
1999, 2008	Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma
2001	Gastric
2002	Sarcoma
2003	B-cell, CML
2003-2004	Male Breast Cancer
2003, 2012	CML
2004	Node negative, ER positive Breast Cancer
2004, 2009	Kidney
2006	Thyroid, Glioblastoma; AYA NHL, Hodgkin, Germ cell, ALL, Osteo- Ewings, Synovial Sarcoma
2006, 2013	AYA NHL, Hodgkin, ALL, Sarcoma (Osteo- Ewings, Synovial)
2007	AML, Small cell lung cancer
2007, 2012	Hepatocellular
2008	Gastrointestinal stromal cancer
2010-2011	Childhood neuroblastoma
2011	All ages with astrocytoma/ oligodendroglioma
2011	Metastatic melanoma, mesothelioma
2012	Late stage breast cancer
2013	Sarcoma (all ages - Osteo- Ewings, Rhabdomyo-, Synovial Sarcoma)
2013	AYA breast cancer
2014	Colon cancer, stage IV

*Adults, age 20+, unless otherwise indicated

Childhood, ages 0-19

AYA, ages 15-39